

Medical Center—the Army's second largest medical treatment facility. They lay claim to an inspiring and influential past, only to be surpassed by a great future, full of potential, full of bravery, and full of patriotism.

Mr. Speaker, our country owes Joint Base Lewis-McChord and the brave women and men working there an insurmountable debt of gratitude. On the 100-year anniversary of its historic founding, I want to say thank you for the past century of protection, hope, and comradery coming out of Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

**HONORING MITCHELL HUSTON FOR
HIS 2ND PLACE FINISH AT THE
NATIONAL SPEECH DEBATE
TOURNAMENT**

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Mitchell Huston, on his 2nd Place finish at the National Speech and Debate Tournament that took place in Birmingham, Alabama June 17–24, 2017.

Mitchell, who is a junior at Jefferson City High School, performed a piece entitled: "Not a Genuine Black Man," by Brian Copeland. Mitchell chose this piece because of the important message it instills about the need for our society to be accepting of all races and creeds. Throughout his performance, Mitchell portrayed Brian Copeland's life story that involved years of criticism about his status in the African American community and eventually how Copeland confronted stigma and successfully overcame it. To make it to the National Tournament, Mitchell took 3rd place in the St. Louis District Tournament and at the National Speech and Debate Tournament, Mitchell placed 2nd in the prose category.

To receive 2nd Place at the competition was a great accomplishment for Mitchell. As this was Mitchell's first year on the Jefferson City High Debate Team, Mitchell's coach, Jordan Hart, was especially excited with this accomplishment. While competing during the national competition, Mitchell exhibited humility and as he continued to excel, he gave the glory of his success to God. Besides his participation with the debate team, Mitchell is also a member of the Jefferson City High School football team and participates in several other extra-curricular activities.

I ask you to join me in congratulating Mitchell Huston on his 2nd Place finish at the National Speech and Debate Tournament. The commitment he has shown to the Jefferson City High School Debate team is a commendable accomplishment.

**RECOGNIZING COLONEL DEACON
MADDOX FOR HIS SERVICE TO
THE PEOPLE OF THE 9TH DIS-
TRICT AND THE NATION**

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the dedicated service of Colonel

Deacon Maddox, commander of Letterkenny Army Depot.

Since his arrival in August of 2015, Colonel Maddox has brought the finest elements of the U.S. Army Warrior Ethos to bear on the task of revitalizing operations at Letterkenny Army Depot. Through his innovative leadership, Colonel Maddox has brought about substantial and lasting changes that have cemented Letterkenny's place as the premier defense industrial facility in the nation for decades to come.

Throughout his career as an Army officer, Colonel Maddox has exemplified the finest traditions of this nation's armed forces. His tenure at the helm of Letterkenny has been marked by an unshakeable commitment to the men and women under his command, and his work to improve the efficacy and production at the depot has made this nation safer and more secure.

Let no one make the mistake of underestimating the role of America's organic industrial base. Our depots and arsenals work tirelessly to put the weapons and equipment in the hands of the warfighter, and the labor being done in the heart of Pennsylvania saves lives in lands far from home. That would not be possible without the steadfast guidance of leaders like Colonel Deacon Maddox.

In his time at Letterkenny Army Depot, Colonel Maddox has done more than simply steer the installation towards greater success—he has also become a welcome part of the Franklin County community. From his engagement with local officials to his collaboration with Team Letterkenny, Colonel Maddox has been a valued member of the 9th District. It has been an honor to work with him, and his presence will be missed in Franklin County.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 9th District, I want to thank Colonel Deacon Maddox for his selfless service, and for working so hard to protect both the American warfighter and the dedicated workforce at Letterkenny Army Depot. Though Colonel Maddox's time at Letterkenny Army Depot may be over, the impact he has made to improve the installation and the lives of its employees will be felt for decades to come.

**RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBU-
TIONS OF THE DENVER PRESS
CLUB, A NATIONAL TREASURE
CELEBRATING ITS 150TH ANNI-
VERSARY**

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, one year after Colorado became the 38th state, in 1877 a group of Denver journalists formed the nation's first press club. Now celebrating its 150th Anniversary, the Denver Press Club is significant to our community and our country in a number of ways.

What started as a means for frontier-town rival reporters to play poker, tap into a barrel of Taos Lightning whiskey and debate the news of the day became a magnet for some of the most famous names in the field, defenders of the First Amendment and strong advocates for the values of journalism that are so critical to our democracy.

In its early years, the club met in various spots, including the "cyclone cellar" of Wolfe Londoner's grocery store before he was elected mayor of Denver, a term cut short due to a scandal that his journalist friends covered with gusto. He was later elected president of the Colorado State Press Association.

As the club grew, it met in local hotels, among them the prestigious and famous Brown Palace. The club's own prestige increased as it brought national speakers and performers to Denver, awarded honorary membership to several U.S. presidents, brought the International League of Press Clubs to Denver in 1906 and served an instrumental role in elevating Denver's profile and meeting the needs of national media when the city hosted the 1908 National Democratic Convention.

A permanent home for the club was built with the help of an architect team that included the designer of the Denver Public Library, Daniels & Fisher department store and Red Rocks Amphitheater. In 1986, this structure was named a Historic Landmark, and the Society for Professional Journalists designated the club a "significant historical place in journalism" in 2008. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places this year.

Oh, and of course the building includes a card room, home to one of the oldest card games in Denver.

But the Denver Press Club's nearly 500 members do a lot more than play games and socialize, though. They work to strengthen and promote journalism while educating the public on matters that reflect the importance of empowered and free media.

Through the years, the membership has included renowned reporters, editors, cartoonists, and authors, several of them Pulitzer Prize winners, who made their mark in the pursuit that has long been the watchword of many journalists: comforting the afflicted and afflicting the comfortable.

Among the luminaries on The Denver Press Club's historic roster was Damon Runyon, for whom the club has named its cornerstone award, given to people whose careers have embodied his style and verve. Recipients have included Molly Ivins, Tim Russert, Jill Abramson, Frank Deford, Katie Couric, Carl Hiassen, Bob Costas and many others.

The club also awards scholarships in Runyon's name to Colorado's top journalism students, as well as a separate award in coordination with the University of Colorado Boulder for outstanding crime reporting that's named for the late Al Nakkula, who was on the police beat for decades. These activities and others serve to raise awareness of what good journalism means to Colorado and the United States. And that cause is more relevant now than ever, amid vast changes to the media landscape in recent years and new, unexpected challenges.

The Denver Press Club has long played its part in shining a light on our city and helping democracy thrive. As it celebrates its sesquicentennial, I am proud and honored to congratulate the club's members on its legacy, and to wish them all the best in the future.